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Security Council

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Letter dated 5 June 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 5 June 2001 from Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq. It concerns a fresh act of wanton aggression that was committed by United States and British aircraft on 23 May 2001 when they fired three missiles at an area of wheatland in the Hamdaniyah district of Ninawa Governorate, setting fire to the land and completely destroying the crop.

The Minister brings to your attention the hostile practices of two countries that are permanent members of the Security Council, and he expresses the hope that you will discharge in full your responsibility under Article 99 of the Charter and alert the Security Council to this wanton aggression with a view to ending it.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed **Al-Douri**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 5 June 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Further to the letter in which I conveyed to you some details of the aggression being committed by the United States and the United Kingdom against Iraq on a daily basis in the two so-called no-flight zones (S/2001/554, annex), I should like to inform you that on 23 May 2001 United States and British aircraft fired three missiles at an area of wheatland in the Hamdaniyah district of Ninawa Governorate. This act of aggression caused a fire that consumed seven dunams of land and completely destroyed the crop.

This wanton aggression provides further proof that the United States of America and the United Kingdom have not been content to maintain an iniquitous embargo against the people of Iraq for more than 10 years but are also persisting in waging daily military aggression against Iraqi citizens and in destroying their property and their sources of livelihood. This confirms that the actions of the United States of America and the United Kingdom constitute a crime of systematic mass extermination that is being committed against the people of Iraq as the international community and the United Nations look on.

In bringing to your attention the bellicose practices of two countries that are permanent members of the Security Council, the Government of Iraq expresses the hope that you will discharge in full your responsibility under Article 99 of the Charter and alert the Security Council to this wanton aggression with a view to its being brought to an end.

The Government of Iraq further reserves in full its right under international law and the Charter of the United Nations to protect the safety of its people, to defend its territorial integrity and to claim from the aggressor States and those countries that support them in their aggression full legal compensation for all the damage, in human, material and moral terms, that has been done to the people of Iraq.

(*Signed*) Tariq **Aziz**
Deputy Prime Minister
Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs